

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of November 17, 2005 has been received and contents carefully reviewed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 25 and 26.

Claims 1-38 are currently pending in the present application, of which claims 4-24 and 27-38 are withdrawn from consideration as a result of an earlier restriction requirement. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,669); and rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujikawa et al. in view of Yamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0030648).

The rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujikawa et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a plurality of interconnection lines on the substrate, wherein a first width of the interconnection lines at a center portion of the interconnection line part is greater than a second width of the interconnection lines at an outer portion of the interconnection line part." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claim 3, which depends therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Fujikawa et al. fails to disclose the aforementioned feature. Then, the Examiner cites Fujikawa et al. and states *inter alia* that it is "a design choice" and it is obvious "to have different structure of the interconnection lines (connection wires), so as to made the resistance of the connection wires uniform (column 5, lines 15-30)."

However, Fujikawa et al. at Col. 5, lines 15-3 associated with Figs. 11 and 12 further discloses that in order to make the resistance of the connection wires uniform, spaces between

terminals become narrower and the widths of the interconnection wires become wider as circuit integration is further promoted, which is substantially opposite to the aforementioned feature recited in claim 1, and that varying the widths of the connection wires sometimes causes either “short-circuiting” or “wire-breaking”. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the teaching of Fujikawa et al. actually teaches away from the teaching of the present application. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application at paragraph [0060] discloses, “interconnection lines 44a in a center portion of an interconnection line part between a driving IC 41 and a gate line or a data line 42 are thickened, so that capacitance between an interconnection line 44a in the center portion and a common electrode (not shown) of an upper substrate 45 is substantially the same as the capacitance of between an interconnection line 44b in an outer portion of the interconnection line part.” Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the aforementioned feature is not a design choice.

The rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujikawa et al. in view of Yamamoto et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Applicants respectfully submit that because Yamamoto et al. fails to cure the deficient teaching of Fujikawa et al. as discussed with respect to claims 1 and 3, claim 2 is allowable over the cited references.

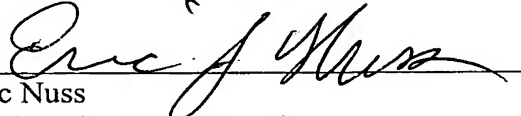
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496 - 7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: March 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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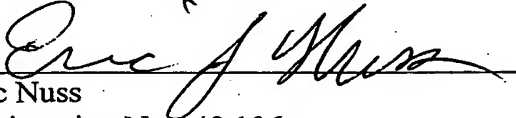
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